

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A method of treating nerve damage, comprising administering an effective amount of a hyaluronic acid oligosaccharide~~low-molecular-weight saccharide~~ comprising at least ~~glucuronic acid and/or N-acetylglucosamine~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to an animal suffering from nerve damage, wherein the hyaluronic acid oligosaccharide is selected from hyaluronic acid disaccharide to hyaluronic acid 50-saccharide.

8. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a therapeutic agent for nerve damage which comprises dissolving a hyaluronic acid oligosaccharide~~low-molecular-weight saccharide~~ comprising ~~glucuronic acid and/or N-acetylglucosamine~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in a solvent commonly used for drugs, wherein the hyaluronic acid oligosaccharide is selected from hyaluronic acid disaccharide to hyaluronic acid 50-saccharide.

9. (New) The method according to claim 7, wherein nerve damage is caused by spinal cord injury or nerve trauma.

10. (New) A method of recovering a nervous function comprising administering an effective amount of a hyaluronic acid oligosaccharide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to an animal suffering from loss of nervous function, wherein the hyaluronic acid oligosaccharide is selected from hyaluronic acid disaccharide to hyaluronic acid 50-saccharide.

11. (New) The method according to claim 7, wherein the nerve damage is selected from the group consisting of a decrease of a nervous function, demyelination, an edema in white matter, a reduction in axon number and tissue damage caused by a spinal cord injury or nerve trauma.

12. (New) The method according to claim 7, wherein the hyaluronic acid oligosaccharide is hyaluronic acid tetrasaccharide.

13. (New) The method according to claim 8, wherein the hyaluronic acid oligosaccharide is hyaluronic acid tetrasaccharide.

14. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hyaluronic acid oligosaccharide is hyaluronic acid tetrasaccharide.

15. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein the hyaluronic acid oligosaccharide is hyaluronic acid tetrasaccharide.

16. (New) The method according to claim 11, wherein the hyaluronic acid oligosaccharide is hyaluronic acid tetrasaccharide.